

# CONCORDIA



Aug. 24, 2000

## Stingers

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### Coach McGrath opens football training camp Saturday

Head coach **Gerry McGrath** will welcome more than 80 football players to the Concordia Stingers training camp, which opens Saturday morning at the Loyola campus field on Sherbrooke St. in N.D.G.

"I'm really excited about training camp," says McGrath, who takes over from Pat Sheahan who left the university last February. "We're going to have a very competitive camp. On offence, I think we will field our most complete 12-man unit ever, so I'm eager to get to work with them. Defensively, camp will be very competitive at all three positions – on the line, linebackers and defensive backs."

There's a couple of situations that have created a lot of excitement and speculation. Most of the talk surrounds the quarterback position. Five-year veteran **Sean Hoas** (Châteauguay, Que.) has decided to give up quarterbacking and move to the defensive unit.

"I think one of the highlights of camp will be to watch Sean Hoas learn his new position at safety," McGrath says. "I know he's going to bring a lot of leadership to our young secondary."

That leaves fourth-year man **Jon Kronmeyer** (Niagara Falls, Ont.) as the starting quarterback. And behind him two great young prospects will compete for the No. 2 and 3 positions.

"I'm very interested in the battle between **Hugo Fortier** (Collège Vieux Montreal) and **Phil Scallabrina** (Champlain College) for the backup spot," says the coach. "It will be like watching a couple of boxers duke it out."

Other newcomers to keep an eye on include: defensive end **Troy Cunningham**, a blue chip prospect from Mallorytown, Ont.; **Dan Mott**, a slotback/kicker from Markham, Ont.; linebacker **Nick Perez**, a Vanier College star who is transferring to Concordia from Mount Allison University; slotback **Richard Martin**, a Montrealer who is also transferring back home after a stint at Acadia University; and centre **Brad Collinson**, a St. Bruno native who returns home from Tennessee Martin University in the U.S. He will be eligible to play with the Stingers in game three and is expected to have an immediate impact on the offensive line.

The team's leadership will come from a number of established veterans, including four 1999 all-stars: offensive tackle **Steve Jobin** (Varenes, Que.), kicker **Matt Trudeau** (Montreal), punter **Burke Dales** (Brockville, Ont.) and defensive end **Wayne Dunn** (LaSalle, Que.). A couple of younger breakout players to watch are third-year guard **Alex Oliveira** (St. Leonard, Que.), third-year linebacker **Graeme Burns** (Dollard des Ormeaux, Que.) and second-year running back **Jean-Michel Paquette** (St. Louis de France, Que.), who rewrote the CEGEP record books in 1998.

On Saturday, McGrath's troops will do medicals and physical testing, beginning at 10 a.m. Sunday through Sept. 1, there will be meetings from 1 to 3 p.m. and back-to-back practices at 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. On Sept. 2, the Stingers will have a scrimmage and then will move up to the Laurentians for a few days of camp. On Sept. 5, the team will be on its regular season practice schedule with meetings weekdays at 4:30 p.m. and practices at 6 p.m.

For info call the football office at 848-3845 or sports information at 848-3862.